

# FLYBOX®



## ***Electronic Flap Controller EFC-P***

Revision# 3.1 17/7/2015  
For firmware version 1.5

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# ***SECTIONS***

**MECHANICAL INSTALLATION**

**TRANSDUCER & ACTUATOR INSTALLATION**

**ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION**

**USE OF THE INSTRUMENT**

**TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Thank you for purchasing a Flybox® product. We hope it fully satisfy you and makes your flights pleasant and secure.

Developing EFC-P, our intent was to create a compact and lightweight flap controller, easy to install and use.

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### SYMBOLS USED IN THE MANUAL



**NOTE:** Used to highlight important informations.

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**CAUTION:** Used to warn the user and indicate a potentially hazardous situation or improper use of the product.

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**WARNING:** Used to indicate a dangerous situation that can cause personal injury or death if the instruction is disregarded.

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**NOTE:** Although the EFC-P has been heavily tested to ensure the maximum safety in every condition, the correct operation depends also by installation and wiring, that must be accurately made and verified reading completely this manual.

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**NOTE:** Keep this manual in the aircraft.  
This document must accompany the instrument in the event of change of ownership.

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**NOTE:** This device is intended for installation onto non type certified aircraft only, because it has no aviation certifications. Refer to your local aviation authorities to check if this device may be installed in your aircraft.

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**CAUTION:** Read entirely this manual before installing the instrument in your aircraft, and follow the installation and operating instructions described here.

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**CAUTION:** The pilot must understand the operation of this instrument prior to flight, and must not allow anyone to use it without knowing the operation. Don't use this instrument in flight until you are sure of the correct operating of the same.

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**CAUTION:** When the installation is finished you must do a test, prior to flight, switching on all the possible source of electric noise and checking the properly operation of this instrument.

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**CAUTION:** Using this instrument over the maximum allowable ranges can cause malfunction or wrong indications.

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**WARNING:** the EFC-P must be turned off in case of start with booster. open the corresponding breaker before starting. warranty shall not apply for damage to the EFC-P for this reason.



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**WARNING:** The EFC-P is attached directly to the flaps actuator: the non-respect of the notices above or a damage to the EFC-P may result in unexpected movements of the flaps. In this situation you must immediately disable the EFC-P by turning the switch in the “MANUAL” position (see chap.4.4 “Use in MANUAL mode”).

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**WARNING:** Responsibility for installation lies entirely with the installer. Responsibility for operations lies entirely with the operator.

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**IMPORTANT:** If you do not agree with the notices above do not install this instrument in your aircraft, but return the product for a refund.

*Microel s.r.l. reserves the right to change or improve its products. Information in this document is subject to changes without notice.*

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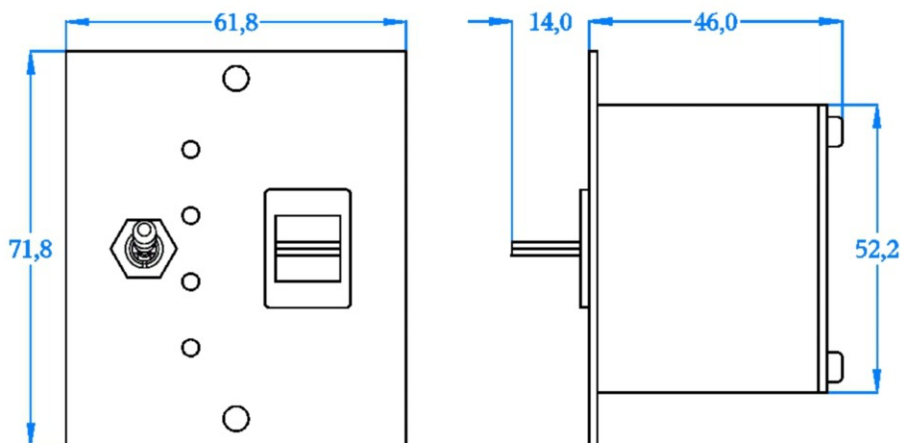
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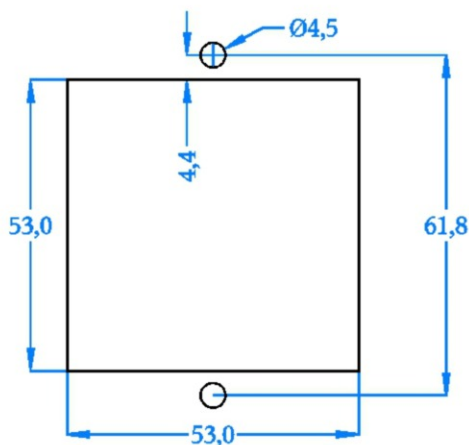
## SECTION 1

### 1.1 MECHANICAL INSTALLATION

#### Ractangular panel version (EFC-P)

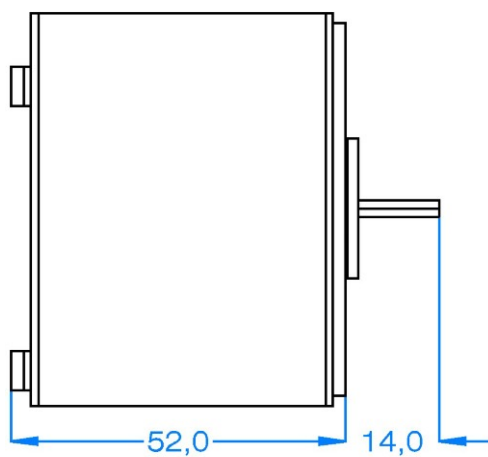
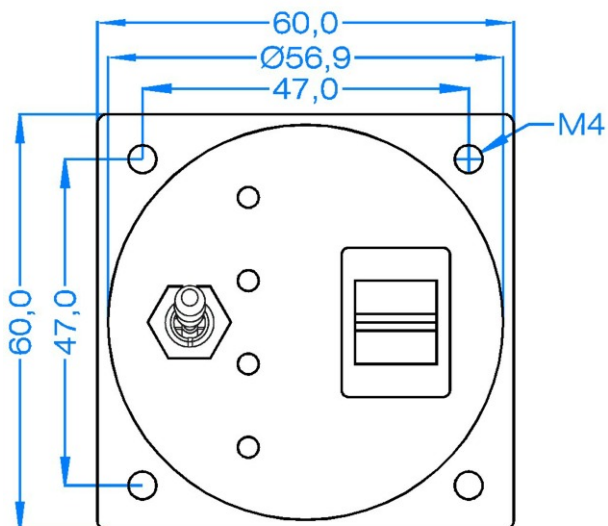


Dimensions in millimeters



Panel cut-out

**2"1/4 round panel version (EFC57-P)**

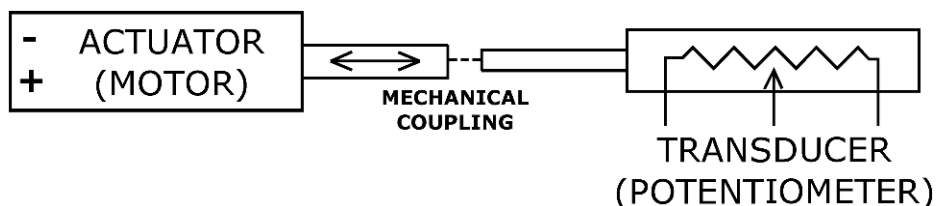
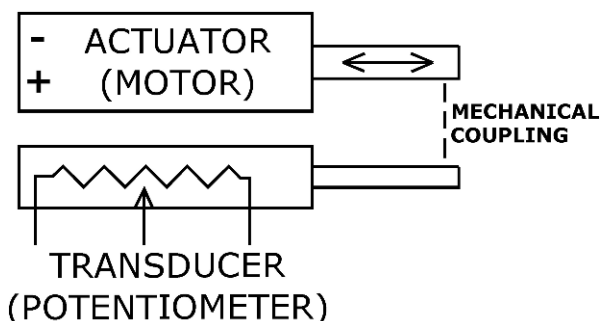


Dimensions in millimeters

## SECTION 2

### 2.1 TRANSDUCER INSTALLATION (only if using actuator without integrated transducer)

The installation consists in the mechanical coupling between the flaps actuator (motor) and the transducer (potentiometer) which permits the EFC-P to know the actual flaps position.



Example of mechanical installations actuator-transducer



**NOTE:**

- The transducer's travel must be at least 10mm more than the actuator's travel.
- The electrical resistance of the transducer must be from 1 to 10 Kohm.
- The transducer must be centered over the actuator's travel so that it isn't possible to exit from the limits, with consequently damage to the position's transducer.

## **2.2 ACTUATOR INSTALLATION**

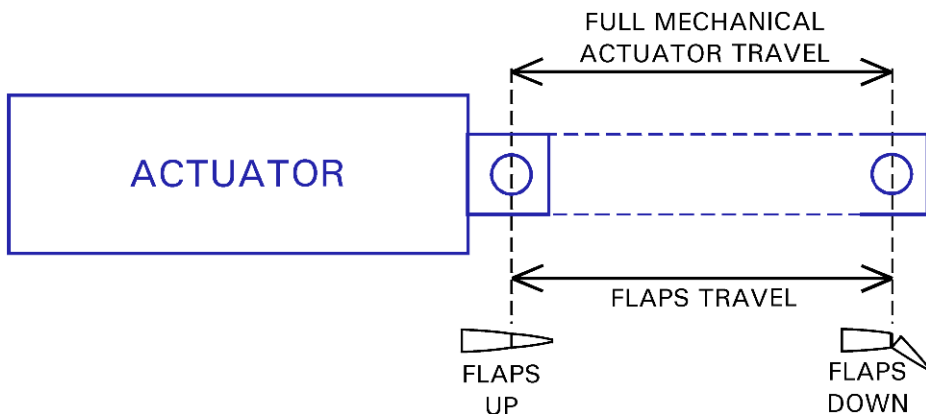


If the actuator doesn't have any internal limit switches it's necessary to install them externally.



To avoid the possibility of mechanical and electrical damage, the actuator travel must match exactly with the flaps travel: with the actuator completely retracted (limit switch reached) the flaps must be completely retracted (or completely extracted for inverse mechanical coupling); with the actuator completely extracted the flaps must be completely extracted (or completely retracted for inverse mechanical coupling). Adjust your actuator travel if it does not coincide with the flaps travel, for example using an arm/lever with an appropriate length.

If the condition above indicated is not satisfied the actuator is not protected against possible overtravel during flap extension and retraction, therefore a pilot that drive the flaps manually (for example using "Manual" mode of the EFC-P) can cause mechanical damage if he don't stop exactly when the flaps have reached the up and down positions.



**Correct installation:** actuator travel exactly match flaps travel.



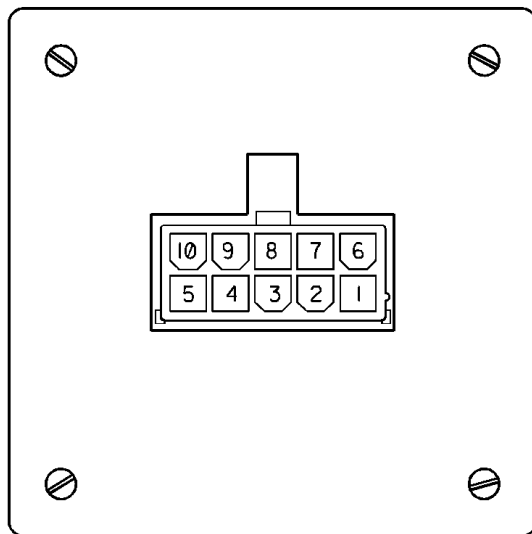
**IMPORTANT NOTES ON USING ACTUATORS WITH INTEGRATED TRANSDUCER:**

- The electrical resistance of the transducer must be from 1 to 10 Kohm.
- Choose a model that use the maximum electrical resistance range. For example if you choose an actuator with 10 Kohm transducer, verify that the stroke that you are going to use provide at least a variation of half the transducer's resistance, i.e. 5 Kohm.

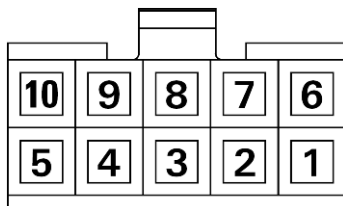
## SECTION 3

### 3.1 ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

In the backpanel there is a 10-poles plug connector (model: MOLEX Mini-Fit JR.); the corresponding socket connector is delivered with your EFC-P.



Backpanel plug



Socket view (from wire'insertion side)

**Connector pinout:**

- 1 – Motor out (-)
- 2 – Power input (+12V)
- 3 - Positive voltage (+5V) for the position's transducer
- 4 – Position's transducer signal
- 5 – Ground for the position's transducer
- 6 – Motor out (+)
- 7 – Power input (GND)
- 8 – “DOWN” limit switch
- 9 – Limit switches common connection
- 10 – “UP” limit switch



**NOTE:** Insert a breaker to the power lead (+12V); choose a correct amperage depending on the actuator installed.



Use avionic cable.



It's recommendend to use shielded cable (2 poles+shield) for the motor output (pin#1 & 6), connecting the shield of the cable to ground on the EFC-P side and leaves disconnected the shield on the actuator side.



**WARNING:** Voltage peaks higher than 15 Volt on the supply line can damage the device.



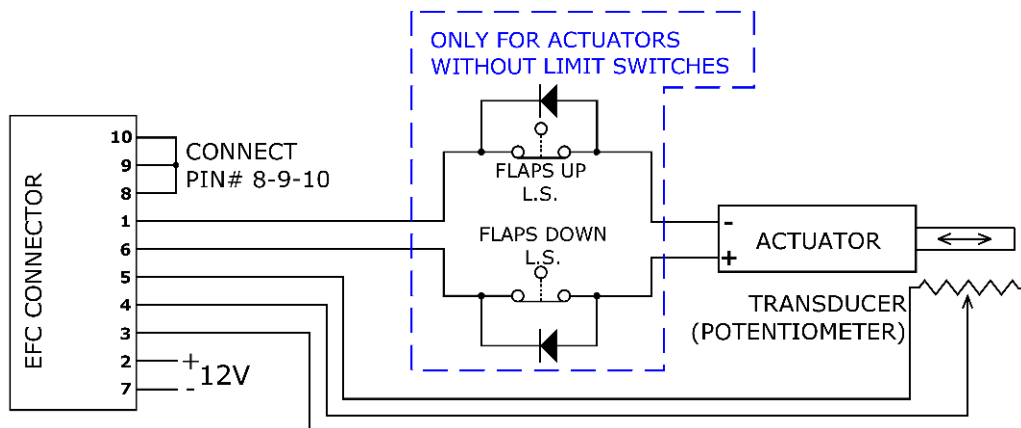
**WARNING:** The EFC-P must be turned off in case of start with booster. Open the corresponding breaker before starting.



### 3.2 WIRING DIAGRAM FOR ACTUATOR WITH NO INTERNAL LIMIT SWITCHES

If the actuator used has no internal limit switches you must install them externally and follow the wiring diagram below. The UP and DOWN switches must be normally closed; diodes max current must be at least 3 Ampere.

Pay attention to the UP and DOWN limit switches mechanical and electrical installation, because a wrong connection can prevent the EFC-P from turn off the actuator before the mechanical stop, with possible damage to the actuator itself.



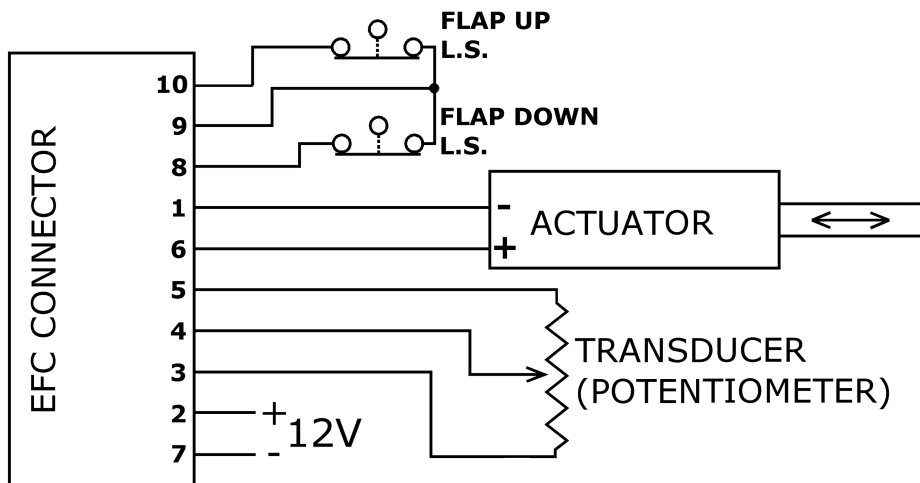
Wiring diagram for actuator with no internal limit switches

### 3.3 WIRING DIAGRAM FOR ACTUATOR WITH INTERNAL LIMIT SWITCHES

If the actuator used has integrated limit switches and wiring (no external wires) use the wiring diagram above, connecting pin #1 and #6 of the EFC-P connector directly to the actuator.

### 3.4 WIRING DIAGRAM FOR ACTUATOR WITH INTERNAL LIMIT SWITCHES AND EXTERNAL WIRES

If the actuator used has 3 wires for the limit switches connection, probably one wire is the common contact for the limit switches, so the wiring diagram to the EFC-P is the following:



Wiring diagram for actuator with internal limit switches and external wires. Note that the common contact of the limit switches is connected to pin #9.

## **3.5 WIRINGS CHECK**

### **FIRST CHECK:**

When finished all the wirings turn the Auto/Manual switch in Manual position and check the flaps movement with the UP/DOWN switch: press in “DOWN” position and check that the flaps go down, press in “UP” position and check that the flaps go up. If directions are reversed swap the two actuators wire (pin 1 and 6 on the EFC-P connector).

### **SECOND CHECK:**

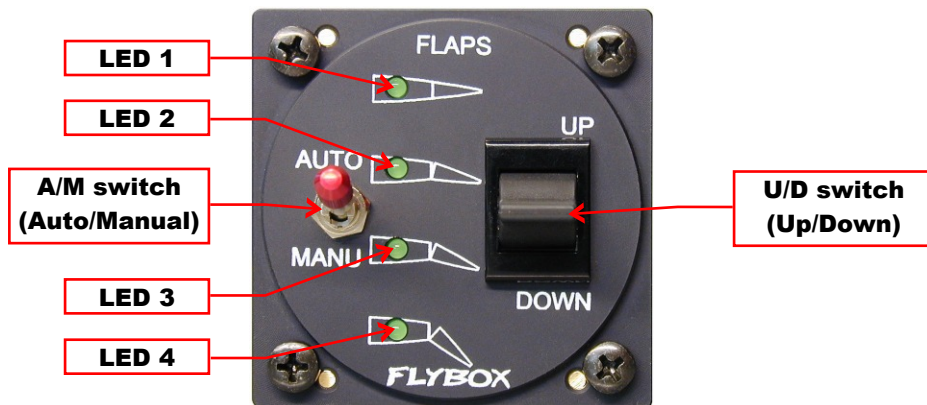
The wiring between the transducer and the EFC-P connector (pins 3-5) depends on the actuator-transducer mechanical coupling (i.e. flaps down-->transducer's shaft extracted or flaps down-->transducer's shaft retracted).

To check if the wirings are ok measure the voltage between ground (pin#7) and pin #4 of the EFC-P connector:

with the flaps completely down the voltage must be to its maximum value, with the flaps completely up the voltage must be to its minimum. If this doesn't occur, or if the EFC-P does not work correctly, swap the two wires on pins #3 and #5 of the EFC-P connector.

## SECTION 4

### 4.1 PANEL INDICATORS AND COMMANDS



**NOTE:** The Auto/Manual switch has a safety lock to avoid accidental operation: it must first pulled on the outside and then moved to the desired position.

## **4.2 OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS**

The EFC-P can work in two modes: Automatic or Manual. For normal operations use the “Automatic” mode; the “Manual” mode must be used only in case of emergency or failure of the EFC-P.



**NOTE:** Before using the device for the first time you must program the four position that the EFC-P store in memory and use in Automatic mode. Follow this steps to perform the programming:

- With the device powered off turn the A/M switch in the “Automatic” position, then press and hold the U/D switch in the “UP” position..
- Power on the EFC-P and wait 10 seconds until the LED1 and the LED4 come on steady.
- Release the U/D switch (LED1 and LED4 start flashing).  
NOTE: The EFC-P doesn't enter in the programming mode if a limit switch is open (UP or DOWN limit switch); if this occur you must turn in “Manual” mode and move the flaps until the limit switch will de-activate, then repeat the programming sequence from the beginning.

- Make this sequence using the U/D switch: 2 click in the UP position, 2 click in the DOWN position and 1 click in UP; if the sequence is correct the EFC-P enters in programming mode and the LED2/LED3 briefly flash.
- Now the first led is flashing indicating that you can adjust the flaps in the desired position (using the U/D switch). To store the position, briefly move the A/M switch in “Manual” and then return in “Automatic”.
- Now the second led is flashing and you can adjust and then store the second position in the same way explained in the previous step (U/D switch to adjust then A/M switch to store the position). Repeat again the step for the third and fourth position. The EFC-P will automatically exit from the programming mode and become operative once the last position is correctly stored in memory.



**NOTE:** If the EFC-P is powered on the first time without enter in the programming mode the four LED will simultaneously flash.

**The positions remains stored in memory also without power supply.**

## **4.3 USE IN AUTOMATIC MODE**

In AUTOMATIC mode you can move the flaps choosing one of the four stored position; the maximum travel of the motor is defined by the two limit switches UP and DOWN.

The LEDs show the status of the flaps:

**LED on:** indicate the current position of the flaps

**LED flashing:** indicate the position that the flaps are reaching

### **-EXAMPLE OF USE-**

The flaps are in the first position (LED1 on, all other LEDs off):

to move the flaps in the third position press two times the U/D switch in the DOWN position; the flaps start moving and the third LED is flashing, indicating the position that the flaps are reaching.

When the flaps reaches the second position the first LED turn off while the second turn on; when they reaches the third position the second LED turn off and the third turn on. The flaps have reached the selected position and the EFC-P return to steady state, waiting for another command.

Pressing the U/D switch in the UP position for more than 1 second move automatically the flaps to the first position (regardless of the current position).

## **4.4 USE IN MANUAL MODE**

In this mode the flaps position are not fixed between the four programmed positions but the movement are continuous; however it's recommended to use the MANUAL mode only in case of device's electronic failure, because this mode bypass the internal electronic circuits and connect directly the motor to the U/D switch.

To control the flaps simply use the U/D switch: press and hold in a position (UP or DOWN) and release when the motor have reached the desired position.



## **4.5 TROUBLESHOOTING AND ERROR CODE**

- **All the four LEDs flashing:** no positions' programming have been made (see chap. 4.2)
- **LED1 and LED2 flashing:** it means that the EFC-P try to move the motor but there is no feedback from the transducer: can be a wrong connections on the motor's wiring or on the transducer's wiring.  
To exit from this condition you must turn off the device and remove the cause of failure.
- **LED1 and LED3 flashing:** it means that the connection motor/transducer are not correct; maybe the motor's wire reversal or a wrong transducer wiring.  
To exit from this condition you must turn off the device and remove the cause of failure.
- **LED2 and LED4 flashing:** it means that the EFC-P has detected an over-current condition. Check that wirings of the actuator motor have no short circuits or check that the actuator is working correctly.

## **SECTION 5**

### **5.1 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- **Frontpanel dimensions:**
  - 61.8 x 71.8 mm (rectangular panel version).
  - 60.0 x 60.0 mm (2"1/4 round panel version).
- **Depth:**
  - 46 mm (rectangular panel version).
  - 52 mm (2"1/4 round panel version).
- **Weight:** 125 g.
- **Power requirements:** 12 ~ 20 V=, 80 mA.
- **Maximum current supplied to the motor:** 7 Ampere.
- **Operating temperature range:** -20 ~ +70 °C.
- **Relative humidity:** 10% ~ 90% without condensation.

## **WARRANTY:**

This product is warranted to be free from defects for a period of 12 months from the user invoice date.

The warranty only cover the manufacture's defects; shall not apply to product that has been improper installed, misused or incorrect maintenance, repaired or altered by non-qualified person.

| Date    | Revision | Description      |
|---------|----------|------------------|
| 06/2011 | 2.8      | First release    |
| 11/2014 | 3.0      | Layout update    |
| 7/2015  | 3.1      | Updated chap.4.2 |

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